

**AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT**

**Please amend the abstract of the disclosure to read as follows:**

An optical router capable of efficiently allocating optimum optical paths to optical signals at optimum timings is provided in accordance with the present invention. The optical router is capable of comprising: ~~optical delay means for~~ delaying a plurality of the optical signals containing routing information attached to the header parts thereof. ~~by an optical signal delay time;~~ The optical router contains an optical switch which has ~~provided with~~ a plurality of input and output ports; ~~wherein a plurality of optical outputs of the optical delay means are input and with a plurality of output ports wherefrom the optical signals are output;~~ an optical-electrical converter for converting a plurality of the optical signals to electrical signals; memory wherein path control information and delay time information are stored; and a controller for generating an electrical routing control signal which can ~~whereby to~~ change the optical paths path of the optical signals by finding the path control information according to the routing information extracted from the output of the optical-electrical converter and for which can ~~delaying~~ delay the electrical routing control signal ~~by an electrical signal delay time determined according to the delay time information before outputting the electrical routing control signal to the optical switch.~~